

January 2, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Finally, after three protracted years of legal battles, Microsoft and the Department of Justice settled their increasingly tedious antitrust dispute. The settlement reached will benefit the IT industry as well as the American consumer, not to mention the stability it will bring to our tenuous economy. This case has been a gross misuse of American tax dollars, and I hope that this settlement will bring this nonsense to a close after the public comment period.

This legal battle has seriously damaged the IT industry as well as the U.S. economy in general. The settlement will help strengthen the economy, and ensure that the IT sector will continue to deliver cutting-edge technology to the market. This settlement is fair, and should appease all parties involved in the dispute. Only those companies who feel that they cannot succeed without the help of the government would still be pursuing this case in the face of this settlement.

I am ardently opposed to any further legal action against Microsoft. Microsoft needs to focus on delivering innovative products to the market. As for the government, I am sure that there are other issues to focus on. Thank you for the work that you have done to ensure that this case is brought to a swift end. I look forward seeing it completely resolved.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Whelan  
247 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

cc Senator Rick Santorum

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